

MINERALS YEARBOOK

1 9 5 5

Volume III of Three Volumes

AREA REPORTS



Prepared by the field staff of the

BUREAU OF MINES

REGIONAL DIVISIONS OF MINERAL INDUSTRIES

TABLE 10.—Value of mineral production in Wyoming, 1954-55, by counties ^{1 2}

County	1954	1955	Minerals produced in 1955 in order of value
Albany.....	\$3, 298, 632	\$3, 958, 657	Cement, stone, clays, sand and gravel, gypsum.
Big Horn.....	2, 298, 970	2, 888, 201	Clays, sulfur, sand and gravel, stone.
Campbell.....	480, 023	599, 721	Coal, sand and gravel, stone.
Carbon.....	1, 144, 040	940, 527	Coal, sand and gravel, sodium sulfate, stone, gem stones.
Converse.....	106, 223	45, 671	Coal, sand and gravel.
Crook.....	4, 190, 486	4, 105, 589	Clays, sand and gravel, stone.
Fremont.....	290, 444	244, 815	Sand and gravel, gem stones, coal, stone, gold, silver.
Goshen.....	49, 202	193, 101	Sand and gravel, stone.
Hot Springs.....	142, 160	195, 852	Coal, sand and gravel, stone.
Johnson.....	148, 150	212, 639	Sand and gravel, clays, coal.
Laramie.....	973, 510	1, 011, 302	Stone, sand and gravel.
Lincoln.....	2, 422, 846	2, 481, 613	Coal, phosphate rock, sand and gravel, stone.
Natrona.....	571, 902	336, 799	Sand and gravel, clays, sodium sulfate, stone, gem stones.
Niobrara.....	90, 781	87, 702	Sand and gravel, stone.
Park.....	1, 045, 260	1, 021, 321	Sulfur, sand and gravel, gypsum, stone.
Platte.....	3, 372, 382	5, 646, 008	Iron ore, stone, sand and gravel.
Sheridan.....	1, 673, 457	1, 680, 843	Coal, sand and gravel, pumice and pumicite, stone, clays.
Sublette.....	10, 040	54, 060	Sand and gravel, stone.
Sweetwater.....	13, 512, 922	14, 752, 629	Coal, sodium carbonate, sand and gravel, stone, pumice and pumicite, gem stones.
Teton.....	127, 100	126, 175	Stone, sand and gravel.
Uinta.....	51, 070	21, 030	Sand and gravel, stone.
Washakie.....	2, 251, 377	2, 215, 931	Sulfur, sand and gravel, stone.
Weston.....	2, 863, 660	4, 163, 283	Clays, sand and gravel, stone.
Yellowstone Park.....	21, 700	8, 770	Stone.
Undistributed.....	240, 530, 524	251, 572, 061	
Total ³	281, 306, 000	297, 752, 000	

¹ Value data of gem stones (1954 and some in 1955), natural gas, natural-gas liquids, petroleum, some sand and gravel, and vanadium (1954) that cannot be assigned to specific counties are excluded from county totals and included with "Undistributed".

² Value of uranium ore excluded.

³ Adjusted to eliminate duplicating value of raw materials used in manufacturing cement.

Production of petroleum came from fields along the northeast flank of the Big Horn Basin; all but a small portion of the output came from the Bonanza, Garland, and Byron fields.

The discovery and development of oil production from the Muddy sandstone (Lower Cretaceous) by L. J. Peterson was considered one of the year's important exploration results in the Big Horn Basin. The discovery well, No. 5 Wycl-Govt., is in the Manderson area. The Muddy sandstone had been known to be oil bearing, but owing to its low permeability the stratum had not been considered productive. Artificial fracturing led to the successful completion of the discovery hole and resulted in the reevaluation of drill logs from other areas in the Big Horn Basin. Several holes, previously drilled deeper, were recompleted at the Muddy horizon with production of natural gas and condensate being recorded.

At Manderson early in the year, Mobil Producing Co. began operating a natural-gas-liquids plant to process sour gas from the Manderson area. Hydrogen sulfide was removed from the natural gas and treated for recovery of sulfur by the Modified Claus process at an adjoining plant operated by Jefferson Lake Sulphur Co., which, under construction in 1954 and 1955, began operating March 16, 1955.

Ohio Oil Co. operated its refinery at Lovell; at year end, however, the company announced that the plant would be closed and disposed of in 1956. Crude-oil supplies for the plant came primarily from the nearby Byron and Garland fields and the Oregon Basin field in Park